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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,788	07/15/2003	Jack A. McClure	25104	1111
28624	7590	07/07/2005	EXAMINER TAWFIK, SAMEH	
WEYERHAEUSER COMPANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPT., CH 1J27 P.O. BOX 9777 FEDERAL WAY, WA 98063			ART UNIT 3721	PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/620,788

Applicant(s)

MCCLURE, JACK A.

Examiner

Sameh H. Tawfik

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 May 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Centanni (4,177,935) in view of Chodorowski (3,228,710).

Centanni discloses a method of reducing container folding resistance, comprising forming a container blank having a panel (Figs. 3 and 4; via 40), said panel including a score line (Fig. 4; via fold lines 44, 46, 48, 70, and 74); interposing a relief region (Fig. 4; via slots 76 and 78) along the score line (70 and 74), wherein the score line is aligned with the relief region, see for example (Fig. 4, score lines 70 and 74 is aligned with the relief region 76 and 78). Centanni does not disclose that the relief region including a plurality of arranged cuts lie substantially transverse the score line. However, Chodorowski discloses a similar method comprising that the relief region including a plurality of arranged cuts lie substantially transverse the score line (Figs. 2A, 2B, and 6-9; via slits/perforations 16, 16b, 27, 29, 30, 30'' along fold lines) to reduce the tendency of gussets or creases.

Therefor, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have modified Centanni's method by having relief region including a plurality of arranged cuts lie substantially transverse the score line, as suggested by Chodorowski, in order to reduce the tendency of gussets or creases and provide an improved

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form of perforation or slit to eliminates the formation of gussets or creases and to maintain the strength of the paper before the first fold is made (column 1, lines 36-39 and 54-57).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 05/18/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues in page 3 of the arguments that the cited reference do not teach the limitation of “interposing a relief region along the score line, said relief region including a plurality of arranged cuts that lie substantially transverse the score line.”; Centanni is not concerned with lateral movement along the fold line, rather Centanni remove the container material in the region of the fold. The examiner believes that by removing portion of the container at the score/fold line make that region of the container “a relief region along the score line”, regardless if it was Centanni’s tension to do so or not, the result is that there is a weak region or relief region along the score line.

Applicant further argues in pages 3 and 4 that Chodorowski is concerned with folding paper, not container material, therefore no motivation to combine the references. The examiner believes that the main reference of Centanni discloses the weak region via slots 78, but the secondary reference discloses weak region by via cuts 15 and 16. Therefore, to the examiner it is obvious that ordinary skill in the art would substitute Centanni’s slots 78 by Chodorowski’s cuts 15 and 16 to maintain the strength of the paper board before the folding step is made.

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Conclusion

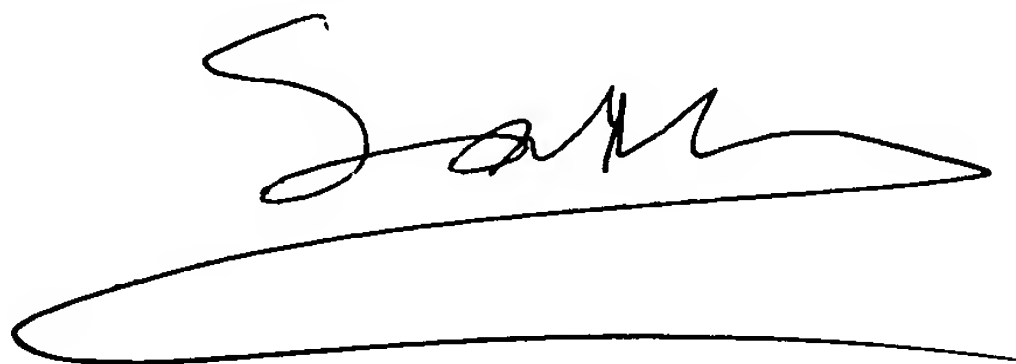
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sameh H. Tawfik whose telephone number is 571-272-4470.

The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rinaldi Rada can be reached on 571-272-4467. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Sameh H. Tawfik
Patent Examiner
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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sameh', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

ST.